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PETER J. VISCLOSKY  
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August 22, 2001

B6

Ms. Sheryl Walter  
Acting Assistant Attorney General  
Department of Justice  
Office of Legislative Affairs  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Room 1145  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Ms. Walter:

Enclosed please find correspondence submitted to my office by my constituent, Mrs. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] has contacted my office with concerns regarding her ability to obtain a Presidential Pardon for Mr. Clemmons J. Allen, Jr. I would greatly appreciate your review of the circumstances involved in this matter and your insights as to efforts that can be taken to address [REDACTED] concerns.

Please feel free to contact Mr. Mike Pizana, my Congressional Aide, at the Gary District Office should you have any questions or comments pertaining to this request.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Peter J. Visclosky  
Member of Congress

PJV:mp

Enclosure

[REDACTED]

B6

[REDACTED]

Gary, Indiana 46403

[REDACTED]

August 2, 2001

Honorable Peter J. Visclosky  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2313 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Congressman Visclosky:

Please find enclosed correspondence from Mr. Clemmons J. Allen, Jr. Mr. Allen is requesting your assistance in obtaining a Presidential Pardon. I am writing to request your assistance and to provide my support for such an application.

I've known Mr. Clemmons for over 30 years and can attest to his character and credibility. The circumstances which bring him before the United States Pardon Attorney is unfortunate. A Presidential Pardon is the forgiveness of an offense and allows an individual who has made a mistake the opportunity to regain their dignity and self worth. Of the many people that are pardon by the President each year, Mr. Clemmons certainly deserves this consideration. His good character and works remain in tact. He is still highly respected in this community by many citizens and community leaders. .

I would appreciate any assistance that you may provide on behalf of Mr. Clemmons. If you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

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**CLEMMONS J. ALLEN, JR.**

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[REDACTED]  
Gary, Indiana 46406  
[REDACTED]

August 3, 2001

Congressman Peter J. Visclosky  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2313 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Visclosky:

I am writing to seek your support and assistance in my obtaining a Presidential Pardon from the President of the United States. The request for this pardon is for the sole purpose of restoring my constitutional privileges and to allow me the opportunity to regain my dignity and reputation. I understand a Presidential Pardon process can take anywhere from three to five years. I have been waiting for this process since 1999 and have not received an answer as of yet.

For twenty-five years I served the city and citizens of Gary as a law enforcement officers and served 13 years as a Gary City Councilman. I also served and was release under honorable conditions in the United States Army. Equally important, many years have been dedicated to volunteering and helping organizations from the youth to senior citizens. My record prior to the offense was without blemish. While incarcerated, I performed various duties such as ministerial guidance counseling to the young inmates, in which many were released and are living productive lives. I also received several Certificates of Appreciation.

I pleaded not guilty to the offense in which I was charged. While I believe in the criminal justice system, which is demonstrated by my service as a law enforcement officer, and understand many of the laws, I have never intentionally, knowingly or otherwise attempted to break any laws set forth by my country. I am an American Citizen who certainly believe in the constitution of our country, in which I have strongly demonstrated throughout the pattern of my life. I regret the entire circumstances which led to my indictment and subsequent conviction of the most minor charge of the indictment.

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I have suffered immensely as a result of this offense. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] However, the greatest punishment of all has been the tarnish to my reputation, family name and the affect this unfortunate situation has had on my family. I am currently and have been employed for the pass 6 years in the office of the Calumet Township Trustee as a Manager/Supervisor. I continue to volunteer my service in the community.

Congressman Visclosky

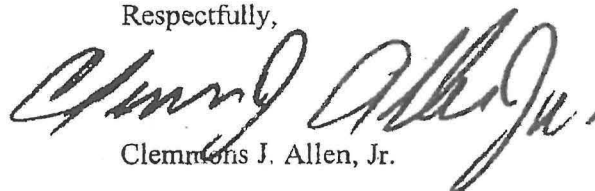
August 3, 2001

Page 2

I beseech you Congressman Visclosky to assist me. I have at this time in my life no where else to turn. Would you please contact the Pardon Attorney, Roger Adams and support my efforts. Many Presidential Pardons are giving every year, some for reasons that are frivolous and other that are well deserved and warranted. I believe, my case, in my view, along with many other prominent citizens of this community, a Presidential Pardon is warranted.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Clementis J. Allen, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Clementis J. Allen, Jr.

Laroya Larkin, Angela Smith, Candace Zannou and Shanise Williams never knew after competing against each other would lead to the foursome becoming Gary's latest singing group sensation.

It was a year ago that the young ladies performed at a singing competition at the Palace Lounge when Terry "T.J." Jenkins came

R&B singing group.

Jenkins said, "When I saw the ladies I visualized them together and the good sound they would make together."

Jenkins said after confronting them with the idea of forming a group they all were in agreement. He said, "It was unanimous. They all were down to earth women that seemed willing to work well together with no arro-

## Clemmons Allen: "Out of all I've been thru, I'm not mad"

By Carmen M. Woodson-Wray

Clemmons Allen, Jr. could be characterized as the model citi-



Clemmons Allen, Jr.

zen. A native of Gary, Clem, known to many by, is a graduate of Roosevelt High School, served in the U.S. Army, returned home and joined the Gary Fire Department for two years before devoting 21 years to the Gary Police Department.

Allen has received over 29 Public Service Awards from the community and worked 8 years under former Lake County Sheriff Steven Stiglich as an Internal Investigator. In addition he held the position of Gary City Councilman of the 3rd District for 13 years. His political and civic career was well on its way, but something happened.

(Continued on page 12)



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## Clemmons Allen: "Out of all I've been thru . . .

(Continued from page 7)

In 1992 Allen was convicted of conspiring to protect an illegal gambling operation and sentenced to 14 months in prison.

According to records, Allen was charged with 6 counts of aiding in an illegal gambling club operated by government witness the late Bobby Joiner. Joiner was recorded discussing plans with Allen to host a party for his boss (Stiglich) and offering him a case of alcohol. Allen was acquitted of accepting a bride.

Of the 6 counts Allen was found guilty of 1 part — accepting a bride of a case of alcohol and innocent of the 5 other parts — his involvement in illegal gambling business.

At the time of the conviction the

question asked most was what exactly did he do to aid in a gambling operation since there was never an exchange of money or favors yet U.S. District Judge Rudy Lozano allowed the conviction to stand.

Allen's lawyer Atty. Fred Work stands firmly to this day that he does not understand the conviction. He said in 1992, "If they found him not guilty in count one, how could they then come back and find him guilty on count two? They never even placed him there (at the club) when any gambling was going on."

Charles Smith, a juror during the trial and only African American on the jury, stated he questioned many aspects of the court case. He said, "I

questioned how a 'star' witness be a deceased individual and how so many other political figures had visited the same location of illegal activities and not have been on trial as was Mr. Allen."

Allen served 10 of the 14 months of his sentence. During his ordeal his wife Dorothy was diagnosed with lung cancer and succumbed. He obtained employment with the Calumet Township Trustee's Office as Supervisor of Internal Affairs under Dozier T. Allen's administration and retired as a property manager deputy for Trustee Mary Elgin.

Allen is now devoting his time and energy to community volunteering and motivational speaking. He has served 34 years with the Northwest Indiana Sickle Cell Foundation as public relations chairman and member of its Board of Directors. He is most proud that during his incarceration he was able to bring 14 men to Christ and join church.

Clemmons Allen, Jr. says he's not angry, sorry or mad about the circumstances that have unfolded during his life. He said, "Initially I was angry and I felt sorry for myself for about two years. I could have had a nervous breakdown, but I didn't because of God's grace. I'm not mad. I was, but time heals all wounds. At 67 it could be worse. I didn't produce all that I wanted to, but I've lived to help somebody."

Allen said he will continue to work for the advancement of the community.



**TRUE LOVE-** Elizabeth exchanged vows Saturday. The couple honeymooned. (Photo by Lou Roldan).

## Grant support

(Continued from page 7) military personnel from the war in Iraq; the newly restructured Bill, which provides financial aid to veterans desiring to pursue a degree; and the nation's economic climate.

"Operation Diploma," funded by a \$5.8 million gift from Lilly Endowment, is intended to empower Indiana's higher

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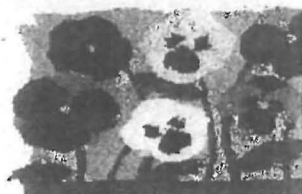
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U. S. Department of Justice

Pardon Attorney

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Washington, D.C. 20530

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The Honorable Peter J. Visclosky  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Visclosky:

This responds to your letter of August 22, 2001, enclosing correspondence from your constituent, [REDACTED] concerning the petition for pardon filed by Clemmons J. Allen Jr.

Mr. Allen's application for pardon is under consideration. The processing time for a pardon application can be lengthy, and we can give no assurance that final action will be taken by the President within a particular time frame. Accordingly, we are unable to advise you when you may expect a decision on Mr. Allen's application. He will be notified promptly, however, when a final decision is made.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

Roger C. Adams  
Pardon Attorney



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of the Pardon Attorney

DEC 23 2009

The Honorable Peter J. Visclosky  
Member, U.S. House of Representatives  
7895 Broadway, Suite A  
Merrillville, IN 46410

Dear Congressman Visclosky:

This is in reply to your letter of November 4, 2009, in which you inquired of the status of the application for Presidential pardon submitted by your constituent, Clemmon Allen, Jr.

Mr. Allen's application for Presidential pardon was received in this office on October 19, 1999. His application was carefully considered in this Department and the White House, and the decision was reached that favorable action was not warranted. His application was therefore denied on March 20, 2002. Mr. Allen is eligible to submit a new petition for presidential pardon, should he choose to do so.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ronald L. Rodgers", is positioned above the typed name.

Ronald L. Rodgers  
Pardon Attorney